

REMARKS

Claims 13-25 are pending in this application, of which claim 1 is independent. In this Amendment, claims 13, 16-23, and 25 have been amended. The specification has also been amended. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found in, for example, Fig. 1(b) and relevant description of the specification. Claims 16-23 and 25 have been amended to be dependent only on claim 13.

Specification

The specification has been objected to because of a minor error. Applicants have amended the specification to correct the error. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

Claim Objections

Objection has been made to claims 17-25 because they are in improper multiple dependent form according to the Examiner. Claims 17-23 and 25 have been amended to be dependent only on claim 13.

Claim 1 has also been objected to because of a minor error. The claim has been amended to correct the error.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the objections to the claims and favorable consideration thereof.

Claims 13-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by New.

The Examiner asserted that New discloses a boring bar identically corresponding to what is claimed.

Applicants submit that New does not identically disclose a vibration suppressing cutting tool including all the limitations recited in independent claim 13. Specifically, the reference does not disclose, among other things, “the flat surfaces extend in a direction substantially perpendicular to a direction of vibration of the holder during cutting,” as recited in claim 13. The claimed flat surfaces are exemplarily shown in Fig. 1(b) (see reference numerals 4a, 4b, 5a, and 5b). It is apparent that flat surfaces 4a, 4b, 5a, and 5b extend substantially perpendicular to the direction of vibration (see the arrow in Fig. 1(b)). Energy from the vibration suppressing piece (energy that serves to cancel the vibration of the holder) can be transmitted to the shank with a minimum loss according to the claimed subject matter (see page 9, lines 6-8 of the specification).

In the Office Action, the Examiner identified end wall 8 of New as the claimed flat surface. However, end wall 8 and a wall of cylindrical damper mass 100 facing end wall 8 (for example) are not considered to extend in a direction substantially perpendicular to a direction of vibration of boring bar 100. New is silent on relationship between a flat surface and the direction of vibration. According to New, it may be difficult for boring bar 100 to efficiently transmit vibration canceling energy from cylindrical damper mass 100.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants submit that New does not identically disclose a vibration suppressing cutting tool including all the limitations recited in independent claim 13. Dependent claims 14 and 15 are also patentably distinguishable over New at least because these

claims respectively include all the limitations recited in independent claim 13. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and favorable consideration thereof.

Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over New.

Claim 16 depends on independent claim 13. Applicants thus incorporate herein the arguments made in response to the rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102 for anticipation evidenced by New. The Examiner's additional comments did not cure the deficiencies of New. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claim is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

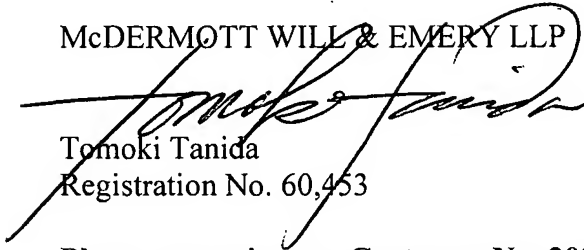
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tomoki Tanida', is written over the printed name and registration number.

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